

## NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE: N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

NIBLO'S GARDEN, Broadway—Comedy. SONGS.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway—Roads.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway—Ticket of Leave Man.

OLYMPIC THEATRE, Broadway—A Bell in a China Shop—Mascotte.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—Market—Carriers and His Dog—Highwayman's Holiday.

BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery—Rag Woman and Her Dog—Lost Love—John Wore.

HARRISON'S THEATRE, Broadway—Fanny's Giant, Giant Girl, Giant Boy, Lumberman King, etc.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway—The Two Orphans, The Two Orphans, etc.

WOODS' MINSTREL, Hall, 45 Broadway—Ethiopian Song, Dances, etc.

NIBLO'S SALOON, Broadway—Robertin Girl.

AMERICAN THEATRE, No. 41 Broadway—Ballets, Jamboree, etc.

BROADWAY THEATRE, 45 Broadway—Gymnastics and Acrobatic Performances.

HALL CHAPEL, 75 Broadway—The Stereoscopic.

ST. NICHOLAS HALL, Broadway—Mimic of the Rev. Mr. Jones.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 68 Broadway—Anatomical and Lectures from Dr. N. M. M. M.

ROBERTS' OPERA HOUSE, Broadway—Ethiopian Songs, Dances, etc.

New York, Thursday, January 21, 1864.

## THE SITUATION.

The news from the Army of the Potomac is not important. News reached headquarters yesterday that one or two divisions of Lee's army had gone to reinforce Longstreet, who was said to be advancing on Knoxville. It was said that General Grant has notified the War Department of the fact that General Longstreet was being reinforced from Virginia. The rebel guerrillas seem to have concentrated their operations about Warrenton, where they pick up some of our cavalry pickets very frequently.

The news from New Orleans to the 12th inst. is important. The town of Madisonville, La., on the other side of Lake Pontchartrain, has been captured without resistance, and is now garrisoned by our forces. The expedition consisted of a portion of the Maine Twelfth, the Connecticut Ninth, two battalions from the convalescent camp of the thirtieth corps, the Massachusetts Fifteenth battery, battery of the United States artillery and a company of the Louisiana Second cavalry.

General Banks has issued an order for the State election on the 22d of February. He says he is fully assured that more than one-tenth of the population desire the earliest possible restoration of Louisiana to the Union. He declares so much of the constitution and laws of the State as recognize, regulate and relate to slavery being inconsistent with the present condition of public affairs, and plainly inapplicable to any class of persons now existing within its limits, are inoperative and void. The General also appoints a convention for the revision of the constitution, to be held on the first Monday in May, 1864. Arrangements will be made for the early election of members of Congress.

The relief steamer Gray Jacket, with a cargo of 500 bales of cotton and a quantity of turpentine and coal, was captured on the 31st ult. by the gunboat Kamehabe of Mobile. She is worth nearly a hundred thousand dollars.

Our correspondence from Key West to the 13th is interesting. Several negro soldiers en route for New Orleans had arrived there. Three valuable prisoners had been captured by the vessels of the West Gulf squadron, namely:—The British schooner Don Jose, from Nassau; the bark Roebuck, bound from Havana to Mobile; and the sloop Hancock, which was taken off the Florida coast by the Sunflower. They had all valuable cargoes. Admiral Farragut had arrived at Key West.

We publish to-day the official list of the names of those Union prisoners who have died in the Richmond prisons up to December 31, 1863. It will prove a melancholy record to the friends of the gallant men who thus perished in the service of their country, not upon the battle field, but in the inhospitable precincts of the enemy's prison houses.

## CONGRESS.

But little business of importance was transacted in the Senate yesterday. A bill establishing a uniform ambulance system was reported by the Military Committee. Mr. Collamer made a speech in support of the rule requiring Senators to take the oath prescribed, and after an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives a bill was introduced to amend the act establishing and equalizing the grade of line officers of the navy. During a discussion on the joint resolution amending the Confiscation act the opposition members announced their determination to debate the question fully, even should they be obliged to resort to the extreme measures justified by the rules. In Committee of the Whole, the tax on whiskey being the subject under consideration, Mr. Fernando Wood offered a proviso to the effect that all spirits on hand for sale, whether distilled prior to the date of this act or not, shall be subjected to the rates of duty provided by this act from and after the 12th day of January, 1864, except that spirits which have been already taxed under the law approved July 1, 1862, shall not be liable to the additional or increased tax provided by this act. This was agreed to. The tax on whiskey remains as already provided for, but an amendment was agreed to that all whiskey or other spirits or fluids into which matter has been infused and sold as whiskey, brandy, rum, wine, &c., not otherwise provided for, shall pay twenty cents per gallon additional tax. Cotton which now pays one-half cent per pound tax is to pay one and a half cents tax additional. Without further action the committee rose and the House adjourned.

## THE LEGISLATURE.

Quite a number of subjects of local interest were brought forward in the Legislature yesterday, few of them, however, of such importance as to require an extended reference. In the Senate the resolution authorizing Governor Seymour to expend not more than \$25,000 in the reception of the regiments returning from the war, and for the comfort and care of recruits at the various State regiments, was amended by providing that he shall not expend more than \$5,000 in any one county, was adopted. At the evening session of the Assembly, the Governor's message being the special order, Mr. Redding spoke at length, criticising the state papers and official acts of

Governor Seymour, and denouncing his course in regard to soldiers voting, to the draft, and to the Police Commissioners.

## MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

There are five European steamships due at American ports to-day, one of them, the Canada, bearing five days later news. The vessels sailed in the following order:—

Steamship. From. Day of Arrival. For.

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Lee across the Upper Potomac; then the appointment of General Meade in the place of General Hooker; then the magnificent Union victory of Gettysburg, and then the escape of the crippled and nearly exhausted rebel army across the Potomac, while General Meade was awaiting instructions from Washington.

What a budget of blunders is here! Of overwhelming armies wasted in the foolish system of small detachments here and there, each under an independent commander, operating around a great circle against the combined forces of the enemy in the center. What a deplorable want of military capacity at Washington is here exhibited in golden opportunities disregarded, in battles lost by blundering strategy, in great victories thrown away by hap-hazard changes of military plans and army leaders. The responsibility lies with President Lincoln for all these misfortunes and failures, from the first Bull run down to the escape of the rebel army across the Potomac. Without education or practical service as a soldier, his experience with the Army of the Potomac has proved that he is equally deficient in the natural qualities of mind essential to the successful military leader.

No braver army ever took the field than our heroic and self-sacrificing Army of the Potomac; yet how different the net results of its arduous and bloody campaigns, under the management of President Lincoln, compared with the results of Grant's campaigns in the West. The Army of the Potomac stands to-day only some forty miles beyond Bull run, while General Grant has overrun and reconquered an empire. We contend that the man who has subjugated the rebellion in the West is the man to finish it in the East; that General Grant, in a word, is the man to take the place of President Lincoln in view of the speedy and complete extinguishment of the rebellion, and in view of the foreign complications which may follow, calling for a capable military leader at the head of the government when the rebellious States shall have been reduced to submission and peace. General Grant is the man to re-establish the Union in its territorial integrity, and the man to settle our outstanding balances against the Western Powers of Europe. President Lincoln has failed as a military leader, and General Grant is the man to take his place.

COUNTY BOUNTY TO RE-ENLISTED VOLUNTEERS.—The utmost confusion and delay, we learn, exists in the payment of the county bounty of three hundred dollars to the re-enlisted veterans in the field, owing to the neglect of the War Department or military officers. In command to furnish the properly authenticated papers to the Supervisors' committee. It must be clear to the dullest intellect that the Supervisors cannot pay the bounty to every soldier who comes along and claims it, without the necessary proofs to show that he is fully entitled to it, and that he will be credited to his quota. These gallant soldiers, before re-enlisting, were promised almost everything by their officers, especially that they would receive the county bounty of three hundred dollars on their arrival in this city. Yet they seem not to have taken the least pains to furnish them with the proper documents on which to secure their money. These brave fellows come straggling on to this city, some with regimental officers, some without, and few of them have any more idea of what is requisite for them to do in order to obtain their bounty than the man in the moon. It is cruel on the part of the War Department, and shameful on the part of the regimental and company officers, that they should have allowed these men to come on here without any papers, instructions or information as to what course to pursue. The Supervisors' committee have a very important and delicate duty to perform in reference to the payment of the bounty to these re-enlisted soldiers. Mr. Blunt, the chairman, must know that they are New York soldiers. He must know that they have been mustered out and have re-enlisted. He must be assured that they will, on the payment of the bounty, be credited to the quota of the city and county of New York.

To be certain of these facts the committee positively require a certified copy of the muster in roll (on file in the War Department), signed by the Commissary of Muster. This properly authenticated, tells the whole story, and on such paper, and that alone, will the Supervisors pay the bounty. To pay without such muster in roll deposited with them would make the committee liable to the severest censure, if not personally liable for the amount thus recklessly paid out; and why these papers have not been sent on here with the regiments is incomprehensible. But it is all of a piece with the shilly shally way of doing business in the Washington departments. They are literally tied up with red tape, or too ignorant to understand how to perfect the most simple business transaction. Some two or three regiments have, we learn, succeeded in procuring their muster in rolls, deposited a copy with Supervisor Blunt, and have consequently been paid the bounty; but many others are floating about the city or have gone to the country to visit their friends, with no bounty, no officers to make out their papers, and their few days' furlough rapidly expiring. Is this the way our brave soldiers should be treated by government authorities? Is this the manner officers neglect their men?

PAVING OF BROADWAY.—Among the various plans recommended for the improvement of our great central thoroughfare that which proposes to substitute broken stone or gravel for pavement is, we think, entitled to most attention. After similar experiences to our own some of the leading European cities have finished by adopting this system, which is found to work well. The Boulevards in Paris and Oxford street and the City road in London are laid down on this plan. It must not, however, be confounded with the ordinary road making of the Macadam system, of which crushed stone forms the only material. For streets a substratum of cobble stone with a layer of asphalt is employed before the small stone is laid on. This prevents the caseway sinking into ruts, and if ordinary care be employed in keeping it in repair, which can be done by simply throwing loose gravel upon it when it shows signs of wear, it will form a surface as even and durable as that of the present pavement. It will be objected that it will create a great deal of dust, and will spoil the goods in the stores. This can be easily obviated by the street being kept regularly watered, which will also serve to hold the surface well together. Next to this system we believe the Belgian pavement is the best. It has this to recommend it: that it can be constructed out of the present pavement, thus saving a good deal of money to the city.

## THE SPRING CAMPAIGN AGAINST RICHMOND.

One of the republican journals of this city published in a letter from Washington a plan of operations against Richmond, which, it says, "will mark the opening of the spring campaign." The plan is for an advance of two distinct armies against the rebel capital. One of these armies is to advance by the overland route—that is, by the valley of Virginia—and the other by the peninsula route. Since the publication of this plan it has been intimated that the correspondent who communicated it to his paper will be arrested and imprisoned for the publication of contraband news. Certainly if any one goes to the Old Capital for the publication of such a plan as that he will go for a very slight offence; for this great plan is, after all, the very one by which McClellan proposed to act against Richmond in 1862. Moreover, it is the plan by which he would have taken that city if the Washington strategists had not interfered with it. Frightened at the movements of Stonewall Jackson, Mr. Lincoln and his advisers entirely stopped, as every one knows, the movement of the column that should have moved down the valley under McDowell. This left the peninsula column to move and fight alone, and kept McDowell's column at Fredericksburg until it was too late for it to be of service anywhere else. Then they denounced McClellan for the failure of a plan that they had prevented him from carrying out. And this wonderful plan that a republican journal has just discovered, and that some one is to go to prison for, is only remarkable as an evidence that the Washington Napoleons have just found out that McClellan was right. It announces to the country that the War Department is likely to take up and act upon one of McClellan's plans. They may imprison the correspondent for that.

Should the rebellion hold out till May or June, the plan of advance against Richmond that will be acted upon then will be a plan agreed upon between the ablest military men in the country beyond a doubt. Grant, Thomas, Sherman, Meade, Sedgwick and Hancock will all furnish ideas for that plan, and therefore it will be a good one. And as the able military men in the country will form the plan, they must be suffered to carry it out. There must be no more interference on the part of the War Department Napoleons, who divide their time between political intrigues and a ridiculous pretence to strategy. They must leave the generals alone; for if they do not, no plan, however good, can be successful. Only our ablest men must have charge of the spring campaign, and then we shall be sure to succeed, no matter what our plan may be.

THE MEXICAN HUMOR.—From time to time an insignificant weekly paper published in Paris—the *Memoire Diplomatique*—announces with a great flourish of trumpets that Prince Maximilian has accepted the throne of Mexico; that he is to visit the Emperor Napoleon, and that immediately after he will set out for his new government with heavy reinforcements. This story has been so often repeated and so often proved false we have no hesitation in asserting that in this instance the journal has added one more *canard* to its large list. We feel assured that on the contrary Maximilian has no idea of going to Mexico, and that Napoleon wishes he were well out of that scrape. To add to the importance of this rumor, we are also informed that Marshal Forey visited President Lincoln in Washington, and obtained from him a promise that the government would not molest a French monarchy in Mexico. Forey having assured Mr. Lincoln that the Emperor Napoleon's government would show no more favor to the rebel Davis and his followers.

We need scarcely add that all this is bosh. Our government never could nor has made any such promise. To add to the utter improbability of the whole story, it must be borne in mind that Marshal Forey did not go to Washington. All he did when he was in Niagara Falls and he was photographed by Brady. These rumors take their rise in the necessities of the adventurers who surround Napoleon the Third, and who at times work the money market by the issue of false news, with a view to their personal benefit.

It must be evident to all that our government could not ignore the Monroe doctrine. We may, from the force of circumstances, permit the encroachments of other Powers upon this continent, now that we are involved in a struggle which taxes all our energies; but when, at no distant date, we shall have succeeded in obtaining peace, the North and South combined will then demand and obtain from both France and England, such reparation for their insults as shall appease our wounded national pride. As for Mexico, we will, at the close of the rebellion, if the French have not left there before, send fifty thousand Northern and fifty thousand Southern troops, forming together a grand army to drive the invaders into the Gulf. That is the way we shall tolerate a French monarchy in Mexico.

A TASTE FOR THE FINE ARTS.—We understand that a well known Wall street speculator, having an interest in one of our city journals, has been purchasing some of the pictures carried off from the residences of the Louisiana planters and now being surreptitiously hawked about here. For three pictures by modern French and German artists, which, under ordinary circumstances, would be worth, to a dealer, twenty-five hundred dollars, he gave the other day the magnificent sum of eight hundred. How comes it that valuable works of this kind, which could readily fetch their full value under the hammer, are sold in this underhand way? Has the buyer no misgiving as to the character of his purchase? He is either an indifferent judge of pictures or has an elastic conscience if he feels entirely satisfied with himself.

THE CONFISCATION ACT.—The discussions in Congress on the proposed amendments to the Confiscation act are so much time thrown away. There can be no doubt as to the unconstitutionality of any enactment which assumes that treason runs in the blood. It matters but little, however, how Congress may legislate on this or any other constitutional question. The war policy of the present administration has entirely superseded the constitution, and we now live under a *regime* as purely military as that of Rome under the Caesars.

## Police Intelligence.

BURGOLARY IN THE BOWERY.—Two men, giving their names as John Ferguson and William Smith, were arrested by officers Laughlin and Kent, of the Fourteenth precinct, charged with forcing an entrance to the clock and street store of Samuel Jones, 354 Bowery, on Tuesday night. The officers caught the burglars in the store, and on searching them found a heavily loaded revolver, jewelry and a rope in their pockets. The prisoners, who are men about thirty-two years of age, were taken to the Bowery House and locked up for trial in default of \$1,000 bail each.

## NEWS FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1864.

THE SENATE PREPARING TO VOUCHER RICHMOND.—A telegraph despatch from Fort Monroe, received here to-day, states that information has reached here that the rebel authorities are removing from Richmond all the public archives and property.

## THE WHISKY TAX.

The speculators in whisky received a severe blow to-day, the House, in Committee of the Whole, having adopted Fernando Wood's amendment to impose the additional tax on the stock of whisky on hand. This result was rather unexpected, and caused a loss to them who have monopolized the article in expectation of large profits from the rise consequent upon the increase of the tax. The Western members, both of the House and Senate, unanimously voted for the amendment. Considerable commotion was exhibited among interested parties, and for a while the telegraph wires were busily engaged in conveying the doubtful intelligence to the surfacers. The bill will pass without other material amendment.

## THE SENATE ROLL CALL.

The United States steamship *Entaw* is to start to New York to-morrow, to be ready for the proposed trial of speed with other steamers.

## APPOINTMENTS CONFIRMED.

The Senate to-day confirmed the following nominations:—

Thomas J. Boynton, as Judge, and Horace G. Planck, as Attorney, for the Southern District of Florida.

Joseph Hamilton, Marshal for the Northern district of Florida.

Edward Dodd, Marshal for the Northern district of New York.

James Graham, Marshal for the Eastern district of Louisiana.

Joseph G. Easton, Marshal for the Eastern district of Missouri.

John Underwood, Marshal for the Eastern district of Virginia.

Samuel A. Mainwaring, Postmaster of Fort Scott, Kansas.

John H. Tyre, Postmaster of Washburn, Indiana.

Michael Scott, of Pennsylvania, Superintendent of Indian Affairs for the Territory of New Mexico.

Frederick O. Rogers, Attorney for the Western district of Michigan.

Frederick T. Atterbury, Attorney for the district of Kentucky.

Paulus Walter, of New Orleans, Attorney for the Eastern district of Louisiana.

Thomas D. Edwards, Attorney for the Territory of Nevada.

Horace H. Harrison, Attorney for the Middle district of Tennessee.

Wm. N. Grover, Attorney for the Eastern district of Missouri.

Andrew Wylie, Justice of the Supreme Court for the District of Columbia.

Richard Bunted, Judge of the District Court for the District of Alabama.

John T. Bates, Chief Justice of the Territory of Utah.

Blair S. Dundy, Associate Justice of the Territory of Nebraska.

Henry C. Brochard, Associate Justice of the Territory of New Mexico.

John W. North, Associate Justice of the Territory of Nevada.

Wm. F. Turner, Chief Justice of the Territory of Arizona.

Frederick R. Locke, Associate Justice of the Territory of Nevada.

## MR. FERRISS'S CONSTITUTION.

Contrary to expectation, there was no contest whatever made in executive session of the Senate to-day over the nomination of General Ferriss as United States District Judge of Alabama. His nomination was unanimously confirmed.

## THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

Washington, Jan. 20,